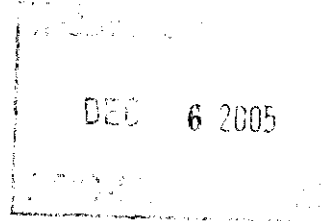




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On The Line For You Every Day

November 30, 2005



Mr. Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

ORIGINAL

RE: Nomination for Universal Service Administrator's Board of Directors
CC Docket #s: 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Martin:

Please accept this letter in support of Mr. R. Paul Waits for appointment as member of the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") representing competitive local exchange carriers. Mr. Waits was nominated previously by RICA (Rural Independent Competitive Alliance) general counsel, David Cosson, via correspondence to Ms. Marlene H. Dortch dated November 1, 2005.

Mr. Cosson very capably captured Mr. Waits's qualifications; however, his extensive resume speaks for itself. With over two decades of experience in the telecommunications industry and his broad CLEC experience with Ritter Communications, I cannot think of a more qualified and deserving candidate to serve on the USAC Board of Directors. As a member of the RICA Board of Directors, Mr. Waits will bring the position of rural CLECs, which is a much needed and different perspective from that which has traditionally been represented by this seat.

Thank you for your consideration. I am certain Mr. Waits will be a positive and dedicated member of the USAC board.

With kind regards,

Curley P. Huggins
Chief Executive Officer

CPH/cgc

cc: ● Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, FCC
Mr. Thomas Navin, FCC
Mr. Tim Raven, RICA

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